

Deuteronomy 11:16 (NLT2)

But be careful. Don't let your heart be deceived so that you turn away from the LORD and serve and worship other gods.

We sometimes get confused when it comes to worship. But the truth is that everyone worships someone or something. So the question is not, *"Do I worship"* but rather, *"What or Who do I worship?"*

Now when you read the word worship, what do you think of? Maybe singing a song in church, raising your hands up high with tears pouring down your face not caring what those around you think about your worshipping God? Or maybe singing out loud that worship song to the Lord while you are driving in your car or when you are at home alone? These are all great and they are a form of worship.

But think about when you are in a football stadium, don't people shout out for their team, some even dressing up in weird garb showing their support for their team, not caring what others think about what they look like or how they act in the stadium? *"After all, it's my team and they deserve my support, even if they are losing this year, I have stood strong with them through the good years, and bad ones too."* Is how you feel about them. But do you realize that this is also another form of worship as well.

In both cases both are worshipping with all their heart, but it's not a matter of are you truly worshipping, but once again, who are you worshipping, God or a sports team.

Maybe this is not you in regard to your favorite sports team, but it can go beyond that to where it is towards a person, like a singer or actor/actress, or a TV show, or a series of movies where everything and everyone else is pushed aside so that you can watch the latest episode. You even treat those in the show like they are your family, in fact, you know more about them than you know about your own family. You are quick to follow them on social media and you spend your hard-earned money to support them, not even realizing that they have no idea who you are, and if you never ever watched their shows, or listened to their music or bought anything else that they produce, it would not phase them one bit, yet you are still willing to worship them.

But if you really want to worship the One who knows everything about you and loves you anyway. The One Who gave His life for you, then you truly have a reason to worship. You see, the world worships wanting to be seen and recognized by the rich and famous and wanting to be like them. But even they will tell you that what they have is empty and meaningless and so many would love to go back to being nobodies and live a normal life, just like you and I do.

But Christians worship because the One we worship knew us before we knew Him, and He loved us even before we knew He loved us. And we worship in response to that love. Not to earn

brownie points, or say, “*Hey look at me down here on the earth, hello up there*”. No, we worship Him because He is worthy of all worship, praise honor and glory!!! So stop worshipping those people that could care less about you and spend your time worshipping the One Who is worthy of all worship and cares so much about you. So much so that He literally died to be with you for eternity in heaven.

† **1 John 4:19** *We love Him because He first loved us.*

† **Psalm 139:1-6** *O LORD, You have searched me and known me.*

You know my sitting down and my rising up;

You understand my thought afar off.

You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways.

For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether.

You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it.

† **Matthew 6:5-6** *And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.*